



BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD



THE AWAKENING OF THE SOUL

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BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD

VOLUME 75

DECEMBER, 1930

NUMBER 12

A Notable Brochure and a Notable Testimony

THE brochure is notable in make-up, notable in content, notable for its source, and most notable for its significance.

In Chinese and by Chinese, it sets forth the value and teachings of the Bible and issues a call for the observance of Universal Bible Sunday. In it are messages from the moderator of the Church of Christ in China, bishops of the Methodist and Episcopal Churches, prominent Chinese ministers of other denominations, general secretaries of the Y. M. and Y. W. C. A., university and institutional presidents.

But what peculiarly arrests attention and challenges thought, is the personnel of the group which provides the opening statements. In it are the preeminent jurist of China,—a member of the International Court at the Hague, — four members of the cabinet or government, two of whom stand second only to the President in influence and leadership, and a former Premier of China. These and others holding high positions, on the invitation of Dr. Lacy, Secretary of the China Agency of the American Bible Society, here champion the Bible and Bible Sunday.

It would be highly significant if men in any country, holding such official positions, made such statements for such a purpose. But these high Chinese officials not simply gave the testimonies. Judging from the photographic reproductions, they actually wrote them out by hand in Chinese characters—no small matter even

for those to the manner born, one may add.

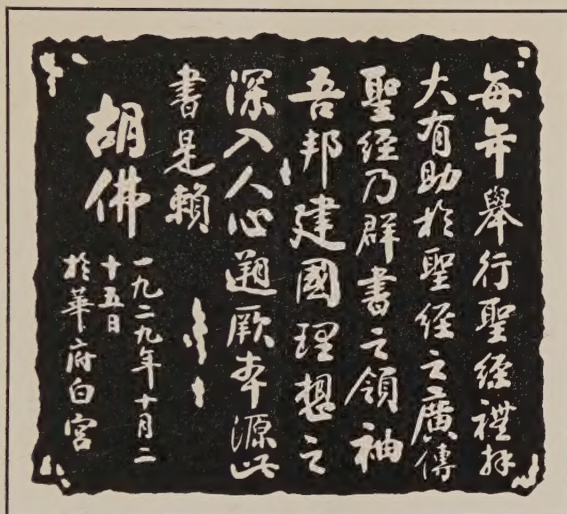
Further, it was while the struggle between the National Government and those in the north was on, and the outcome was still precarious, that these national leaders gave thought and time to this matter. Then again, these statements were prepared and given for publication at the very time when the government

prohibition of religious instruction in all schools — government, missionary and private — was being insistently enforced, and when antireligious agitation of Communists and others was active.

One cannot readily conceive a more significant action by patriotic and political leaders. Perhaps one might wish that, to the testimony of prominent fellow-members of the government and other leaders, the President of the Republic of China would add his testimony as did President Hoover a year ago.

And, mirabile dictu! That is exactly what he has done. This is the welcome story.

PRESIDENT HOOVER'S BIBLE SUNDAY LETTER



THE WHITE HOUSE Washington

October 25, 1929.

The annual observance of Universal Bible Sunday is a valuable aid in spreading knowledge of the Book of Books, from the pages of which have come those ideals that root our government and our national life firmly in the consciences of men and women.

HERBERT HOOVER.

THE ORIGINAL LETTER

A Notable Testimony

On a late day in October, President Chiang Kai-shek in the home of his wife's mother met her pastor and, professing his faith in Christ, was enrolled as a Christian with the rite of baptism.

The privacy and simplicity of this step is in itself a peculiar assurance of the genuineness of his profession of faith. There was no publicity, no assembling of prominent friends. It

did not even take place in Nanking, the capital, but at Shanghai.

Three lines of influence can be seen back of this momentous step. First, family influence. Mrs. Soong, the widowed mother of his wife, is widely known and honored as a very earnest Christian, devout, simple, and evangelical in her faith. Her husband was once associated with the work of the American Bible Society. These Christian parents reared their children as Christians. Of the three daughters, one is the widow of Sun Yat-sen, the revered founder of the Chinese Republic; another is the wife of the Honorable H. H. Kung, Minister of Commerce; and the third is the wife of General Chiang Kai-shek, the President of China. A son, the Honorable T. V. Soong, is the able Finance Minister of the National Government. The influence of such a family was undoubtedly a powerful factor.

A second influence was doubtless that of the Christian members of his political family. Among those with whom he is constantly in counsel Christians are outstanding as patriotic and reliable. Seven of the cabinet or national government have long been Christians. Four of them are pictured on the next page.

A third factor may be divined from the report that, during the military campaigns of the past year, in the face of the horrors of war and weaknesses of men, the President, while at the front with the troops as Commander-in-Chief, spent much time in Bible study and meditation.

Whatever the causes, he came to that decision which led him to say to the Rev. Z. T. Kaung, "I feel the need of a God such as Jesus Christ," and ask to be baptized.

A few friends including Dr. C. T. Wang were present, with the Hon. H. H. Kung and other members of the family. In its personal aspects this profession of faith in Christ was a straightforward, quiet step, without the slightest pomp or circumstance. In its political and historical aspect it may have an influence to find a comparison with which one must go back a millennium and a half.

And what fuller, finer expression could any man give to his belief in the teaching and value of the Bible? Therefore are his portrait and the implication of his baptism associated with the testimonies of China's executives which follow on the next page.

"Be, Ye of Good Courage"

What happens in and with China is of serious moment to the whole world. So it is that events among that ancient and vast population are watched with great concern. The prolonged struggle for a national, unified gov-

ernment, the recurrent warfare between various military groups, the sporadic and widespread excesses of brigands, the uncertainties and kaleidoscopic changes in political control, the terrible famines—these and other disturbing factors have produced unfriendly and critical attitudes toward that land and people in the minds of many. Other many, interested particularly in the progress of the kingdom of God, have been in varying measure disheartened by the continuation and accumulation of disturbing and antagonistic factors. The seizing of mission property and sacking of mission stations, the kidnaping and even killing of missionaries, and especially the insistent attitude of the Chinese Government in prohibiting religious instruction even in mission schools, have seemed to force on mission boards and executives the abandonment of long-established schools and institutions, if not of all work.

At this juncture, when things looked so dark, from such events as those here recorded comes a message of good cheer.

And there is wider and deeper reason for hope and joy. Glimpses of it are given in the other articles from China in this issue. Serious events causing disquiet have been transpiring in China. But one is arrested in any tendency to lose heart by the revelation of these other events which also are occurring. The preaching of the gospel and the distribution of the Word have been and are going on far and wide. Individuals here and there in high and in low places, largely unknown and unnumbered by mission statisticians, are finding joy and hope and courage through Christ Jesus. They, in turn, are passing on to still others that which *will remake this ancient people.*

The quiet permeation of Christian thought and ideals and influence is accomplishing a mighty work in great China, out of sight of human ken perhaps, but in the knowledge of Him who thereby bids "be ye of good courage."

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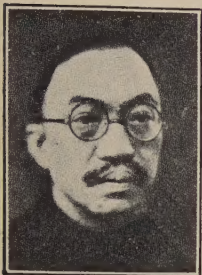
THE December issue of last year carried appreciations of the Bible and endorsement of Bible Sunday from the President of the United States and the chief executives of the premier republic of the Western hemisphere. It is, indeed, a happy, unexpected, and noteworthy fact that in this December issue we are able to present tributes from the chief executives of the most populous republic of the Eastern hemisphere.

A testimony by General Chang Chih-kiang is so striking both in substance and in form, that it must be read as a whole. But there is not space to include it here; so it is held for the January issue.

China's Executives and the Book of Books

HON. WANG CHUNG-HUEI

Chairman of the Judicial Yuan
Member of the International Court at The Hague



The American Bible Society customarily observes Bible Sunday in the first week of December each year. *** Its program is one of the highest benevolence and extreme altruism. *** It appears to me to be very beneficial to the hearts of men and appropriate at this time. So I write these few words of approval and appreciation.

HON. NEW YUEN-KIEN

Minister of Home Affairs

SHAN YU REN-TUNG (Sharing goodness with others). These four characters which I have written do not adequately express the fruitfulness of your labors, but merely show my admiration for what you are doing.

HON. WANG PEH-CHUAN

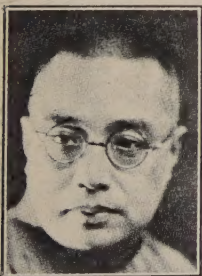
Minister of Communications

The way of virtue knows no bounds of nations or civilization. It reaches through all time to all lands. Whence does it come? God gave it; the saints preach it; the people learn it. Where it is followed, disasters are averted and disorder does not prevail. The world becomes a great federation or brotherhood. I wish these boundless blessings for our people: so urge the reading of the Bible.

MR. SAMUEL ZAU SHIH-EN

Director, Shanghai Bureau, Ministry of Commerce

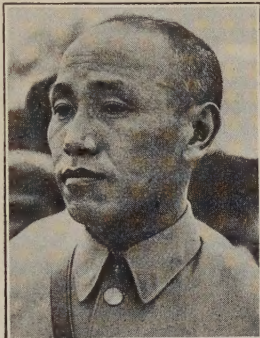
The Holy Bible is a spiritual crystal of the Christian religion, a guide



to mankind in the minutest details. ** It shines as light upon all the world. That mankind is now progressing in civilization in the bands of love, is due to the enlightenment from the Bible. However, the earth is vast, and humanity is numerous, and all need to have a copy of this book to guide their conduct and direct their faith. If this is done, the distinctions of race and color will fade, national

barriers will break down, and only love and peace will remain. The Bible is indeed a lamp in a dark room, a compass on the sea of life. From childhood I have studied these Scriptures. During these decades, while I dare not claim to have made new discoveries, I have been protected against the temptations of society and the uncleanness and evil of many about me through the study of these pages. As I look backward, is it not fitting to give this testimony with gratitude and praise? To show my appreciation, I write these words for the Bible Sunday issue of the American Bible Society Quarterly.

PRESIDENT
CHIANG KAI-SHEK



© P. and A.

"I feel the need of a God like Jesus Christ."

Such was his testimony on being baptized at Shanghai on October 26, 1930.

out ceasing
blessed and

HON. C. T. WANG

Minister of Foreign Affairs

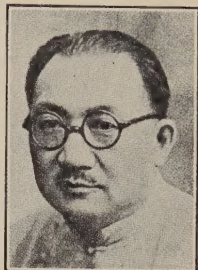


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REN MING AI WU
Benevolence and
love to mankind
and all creatures

HON. H. H. KUNG

Minister of Industry, Commerce, and Labor
Direct descendant of Confucius



Throughout my life I have always regarded the words of the Bible as clear in meaning and significant for life. They lead men to that way of virtue that endures through all ages, by which the heart of man is rectified. ** I have studied the Bible with constancy, diligence, and awe. It is my hope that readers of this magazine will study the Bible and practice its precepts. I therefore respond with great pleasure to the request to write this statement.

HON. LIU SHU-FAN

Postal Commissioner

For thousands of years the world has seen books without number, literature in abundance. When one travels, his oxen sweat under the load; when he is at home, his shelves groan with the weight of books. But for a literature with large circulation and many translations in various languages, nothing compares with the Bible. Because this is a revelation of God, it can in a spiritual way improve virtue and increase knowledge, giving uplift of soul and rectifying the human heart. In this, too, it is a literature with which none other can compare. I have pleasure in writing these few words to urge people everywhere to practice with the precepts of this book, and thus be benefited without limit.

DR. WU LIEN TEH

Director of National Quarantine Service

The Holy Bible is the special literature of moral culture. It can transform human nature. *** The American Bible Society has for its benevolent purpose the distribution of this book. *** Thus the gospel is preached far and wide wherever there are means of communication to carry it; and wherever it goes, the greedy are made generous, the weak are made strong, and all mankind is united in goodness. The contribution made in this way to the welfare of society is immeasurable.



HON. W. W. YEN (YEN HWEI-CHING)

Former Premier of China

The American Bible Society, established many years ago, has distributed the Christian Scriptures broadcast without stint. They have made a contribution of inestimable value to society through the human heart. Now the Bible Society is issuing a special Bible Sunday number of its quarterly magazine; to a request to write a few words for this publication, I respond with a sense of honor and seek thus to indicate my deep appreciation.

Notes and Comments

THE Young and The Old have been especially in the editorial mind as the year has brought us around again to the preparation of the December RECORD. Hence both the unusual number and character of the pictures, and also the choice of some of the articles.

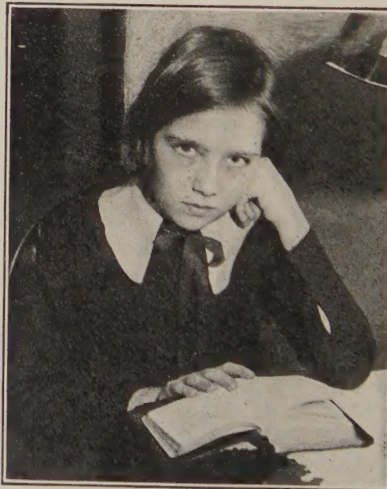
THE material for this issue was in type, and the make-up arranged when the China manuscript and pictures, which, now form the first two articles, arrived. They fully justify the very considerable recasting of the material and the delay in publishing, which has been involved.

THE chubby little youngster here pictured warmed the heart of an Agency Secretary when he entered the Secretary's office, planted himself at the side of his desk, and handed over five ten-dollar bills, with the words, "I want to belong to the American Bible Society." This sum was a part of the tithe of the family of one who worked six years for the American Bible Society, and was a testimony to the faith and interest of the father in its work and aims.



A LIFE MEMBER

THE picture of Kathleen Lynch, the eleven-year-old winner of a Bible reading prize, is here given not for that fact chiefly. To be sure, she won it from other contestants by outranking them in the examination she passed on her reading. Her twin sister was one of the contestants. Trouble with her eyes forced her temporarily to discontinue reading. Kathleen finished reading the Bible aloud to her. When the time for the awarding of the prize arrived, she asked that the chief element of her prize be not awarded until Eileen had been able, by reading the Bible herself, to qualify also for a prize.



© International Newsreel
A CHAMPION BIBLE READER

THE beautiful picture on the cover is from the painting by J. J. Sant. The Taber Prang Art Company supplied the fine photograph.

THE annual call for the Week of Prayer, January 4 to January 10, has been issued by the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America together with the World's Evangelical Alliance of Great Britain.

* * *

World Evangelization is the general topic, emphasizing particularly the anniversary of the first Pentecostal year, and reminding us that the first preparation for the coming of the Holy Spirit was one of prayer and that, like the first disciples, we must begin "at Jerusalem." Copies of the program may be obtained from Dr. C. L. Goodell, 105 East 22d Street, New York.

THE full text of the Rejaf Language Conference held in 1928 has just come to hand. Under the auspices of the Sudan Government, a group of missionaries and government officers, assisted by Professor Westermann of the Institute of African Languages and Culture, reviewed the entire language situation, listed the groups of languages and dialects, and determined new orthographies for seven languages in this great continent.

* * *

Among these seven were Shilluk, in which the American Bible Society has published Matthew and John; and Nuer, in which publication is hoped for before long. The Shilluk is now being rewritten in the new characters.

* * *

The processes of the Rejaf Conference indicate an increasing trend for more scientific treatment of the problems of the reduction to writing of, and publication in, the African languages, especially in British territory.

DR. HYATT, of our National Capital Agency, reports an incident from Baltimore. The Lutheran Church of Zion in Baltimore, in celebrating its one hundred and seventy-fifth year, received a Bible from President von Hinden-

burg of the German Republic, with the inscription (here translated) above his signature:

To the Church of Zion
in Baltimore

on the occasion of the celebration of its one hundred and seventy-five years of existence, with the wish that, mindful of God's heritage, Christian feelings and brotherly concord may always guide the Congregation.

Berlin, 13 September, 1930.

VON HINDENBURG.

THE zeal and forethought of the young writer of the following lines won a deserved response:

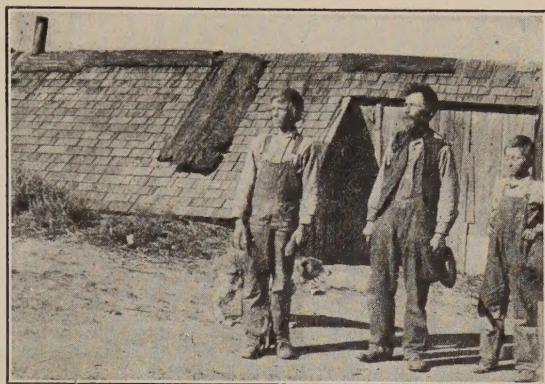
The community I live in has been terribly wrought up. The people are having a revival. After it, they will grow cold again. Would you be kind enough to help us and send me 100 of the little papers called "How to Use the Bible." Is there any cost? If so, how much? I'm only fifteen years old, a Christian worker. I certainly would appreciate it if you send them right away.



A SUNDAY
SCHOOL
ORGANIZED
BY A COL-
PORTEUR
IN A
REGION
WHERE
THERE
HAD
BEEN NO
RELIGIOUS
SERVICES

WORD comes from Dr. Tucker, of Brazil, that one of the blind Portuguese young men, who learned English in six months in order to read the whole Bible which was available only in English Braille, on the arrival of the twenty-volume Braille Bible "began reading it at once, and in exactly two months and five days had read the entire Bible through."

THE spirit of the widow who cast in her mite is still alive. Our Society receives many proofs. Here is one from New Mexico, to which added significance is given by the name of the writer—Mrs. Nick Nesiotin:



AN ARIZONA DESERT HOUSE

The man, 63, had never owned, and the lads, 16 and 14, had never owned a Bible until a colporteur visited them.

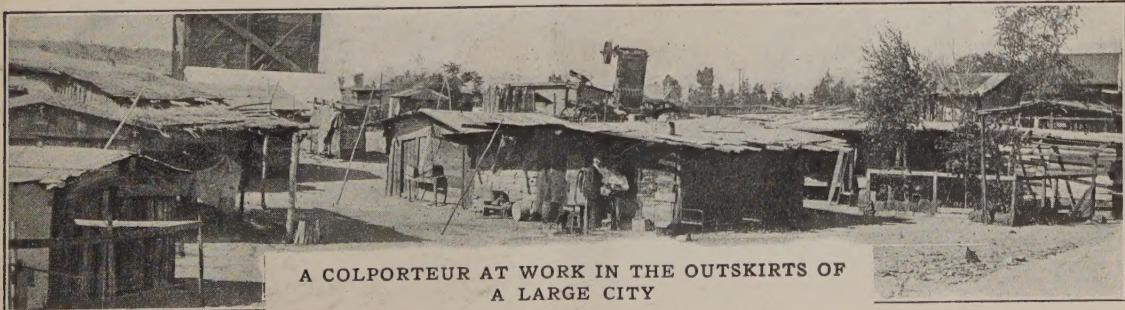
I received your appeal for money to buy Bibles for the Spanish-speaking people. I didn't see how I could help. Taxes and everything seem to have gone up here so much. But, later, I decided I would do without my suppers till I had paid for \$5 worth of Bibles. I am inclosing the \$5. God says his Word shall not return unto him void, and I pray God will give me souls. It's so little we can do for Him, who died for us.

A PLEASANT comment on the October issue of the RECORD is contained in this message:

The October number of the BIBLE RECORD is so rich in real soul food, that I would like very much to have a few copies of it, if you can spare them. I will endeavor to use these as bread cast upon the waters.

AN interesting item is contained in the program of the dedication of its new church building by the First Presbyterian Church, Missouri Valley, Iowa. Its former edifice was destroyed last year. The first item, after the presentation and acceptance of the church building, was the placing of the Bible on the lectern. A note in the program reads:

This Bible was on the pulpit in the church destroyed by fire, but was providentially saved—a symbol of how God preserves his Word to all generations. The fire early broke through the roof above the pulpit, and streams of water falling through the flames encased the Bible in ice on that bitter cold January night, and it was preserved through all the raging inferno of flames that burned even up the sides of the pulpit. The Word was unharmed; the book needed only to be rebound to be again serviceable.



A COLPORTEUR AT WORK IN THE OUTSKIRTS OF
A LARGE CITY

Among American Indians

By the Rev. Arthur F. Ragatz, D.D., Secretary, Western Agency

A propitious coarival of a letter of information and a bundle of pictures gives us this article. The letter was written in response to an inquiry from one concerned about the American Indians. The pictures, each bearing its own description, did not belong, but do add interest, to the letter.

Here they are:

FOR years this Agency has been giving careful and effective attention to the needs of the Indians. There are numerous tribes; some of which have a number of reservations. For instance, the Navaho Indians are found in three or four reservations. The Paiute Indians are more carefully congregated. We have only one Paiute reservation in Arizona. The same holds



"Most of these are Christian girls who are learning to read the Navaho Bible printed by our Society, and who later interpret it to their illiterate relatives."

true with the Hopi Indians. Besides these, we have the Cheyennes, Utes, and one or two other tribes that are no longer maintaining their tribal name or tradition, but are merely assembled as "Indians." The Apaches, Flat Heads, and several other tribes are found in Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming. Inasmuch as our enquiring friend is especially interested in

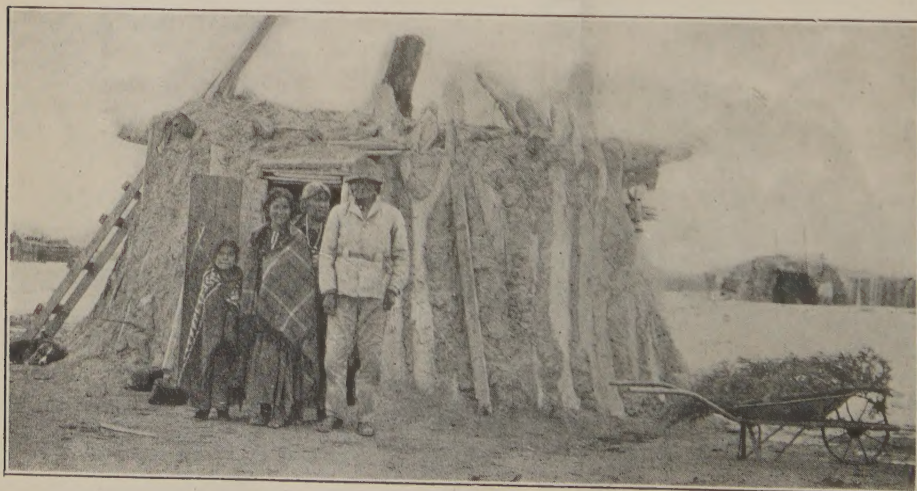
the Southern groups, I will confine myself to them.

The Federal Government provides excellent schools for the children. While they do not permit any religious teaching in the school during school hours, they not only permit, but encourage responsible missionary activities to be carried on within the reservation, provided the missionary work is done without undue pressure upon the Indians.

I have received numerous letters from the department in Washington thanking the American Bible Society for the "fine cooperation" we are giving the department in furnishing Scriptures translated in Indian languages. The department feels that it is a great help to the Indian to have the Scriptures in his own language. This helps him to get a better understanding of the English language, when



"This couple attended the mission school as children and were converted. They are faithful workers in the mission, read their Bible daily at the morning devotions, and help distribute the Word as best they can."

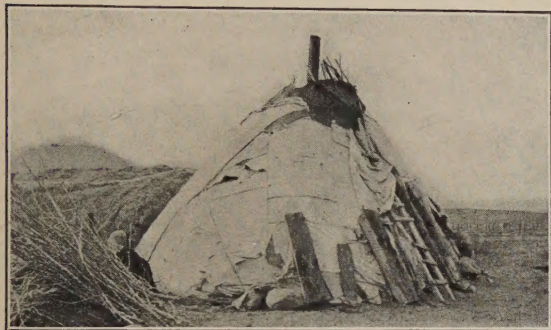


A NAVAHO HOUSE

This is how many of the people live. No windows, the chimney is the only vent for air when the door is closed. The young woman in the center, after years of training in a mission school, had no other place to go other than the old mud house where she was born.

he compares, in mission class study, the two versions. As one of the letters naively put it, "reading the Bible has never made a good Indian bad, but has gone a long way in helping make bad Indians good."

The Methodist Episcopal Church South, Presbyterian, Reformed Dutch Church, United Brethren and a number of groups in which



A PAIUTE MANSION

A common residence is smaller and does not have the earth room at the rear of the front parlor. "The better class keep their homes very clean. I have never received a more cordial welcome than I received at one of these homes."

various denominations are united are doing a remarkable work among these Indians. * * *

We are cooperating with a score or more devoted and consecrated Protestant missionaries who are working among these Indians and are laying a foundation that, in years to come, will bring ever-increasing numbers of the Red race into the Protestant church.

Many remarkable stories, some humorous, some pathetic, and some tragic, can be told of what happens when these boys and girls return from the mission schools to their native homes and there tell their family what they

learned about Christianity while at the mission.

Years ago, every one of these children, when they returned to their homes, was given a Bible or portion of Scripture. It was discovered later that this was not a good plan; for many were neglected and wasted. Now the Bibles are kept in the school and, when the children have completed their government education, have been instructed in the Christian religion, and are found sufficiently interested in it to request a Bible, a copy is given to each on the condition that it will be faithfully read. This plan has worked better than the former plan.

A few years ago, one of the young bucks, who was courting a girl in the senior class, would ride from the reservation over to the mission and attend the evening mission classes, in order to be near his sweetheart. She was very much interested in her mission class. He decided it would be wise to show some interest himself. It so delighted her, that she pleaded with the missionary to give her young brave a Bible, which the young Indian solemnly accepted. However, after some weeks he returned the Bible, saying:

"Me no want book. Me like much fun, play poker, fight, much roust-about, have heap big time. Book make Indian not happy, make him stop all fun and be very good and me no want to be good."

The girl threatened to have nothing more to do with him, unless he would keep the Bible and live according to its teachings. After many attempts, interspersed with failures, he was soundly converted and became a great worker among his tribe.

This account of the Indians would not be complete if I did not also report that their gratitude knows no bounds. Of course, they have no money. The children at school are



A GROUP OF PAIUTE YOUNG INDIANS WHO RECEIVED DAILY BIBLE TEACHING AND A BIBLE WHEN ABLE TO READ

frequently given odd jobs, for which they are paid a meagre wage. Instead of spending this money for luxuries, most of them bring it to the missionary in charge, begging that it

mission scholars, who want the money to be used for the American Bible Society, so that it may keep on giving the Bible to those who come to the school after they are gone!



A PAIUTE CONGREGATION. DR. RAGATZ WAS ONE OF THE SPEAKERS AT THE SERVICE
 "Every possible seat was taken, aisles filled, pulpit platform steps filled—it was a day in August with temperature at 100 degrees. We had plenty of local atmosphere!"

be used to help others. As a result, we annually receive offerings ranging from \$1 up to as high as \$15, given in most part in pennies and nickels, with an occasional quarter, by these

For years we have been supplying Scriptures to these missions at half price and always have been called upon to make full grants for specially needy cases.

I Shall Not Want

In response to requests from several sources, these analyses of the Twenty-third Psalm, published in these columns in 1925, are here republished.

"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want"

"I shall not want"—rest: "He maketh me to lie down in green pastures."

"I shall not want"—drink: "He leadeth me beside the still waters."

"I shall not want"—forgiveness: "He restoreth my soul."

"I shall not want"—guidance: "He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake."

"I shall not want"—companionship: "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for Thou art with me."

"I shall not want"—comfort: "Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

"I shall not want"—food: "Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies."

"I shall not want"—joy: "Thou anointest my head with oil."

"I shall not want"—anything: "My cup runneth over."

"I shall not want"—anything in this life: "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life."

"I shall not want"—anything in eternity: "And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."
 Thus wrote David.

Christ's own words reveal the fulfillment:

"I am the good Shepherd"

Thou shalt not want rest: "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

Thou shalt not want drink: "If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink."

Thou shalt not want forgiveness: "The Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins."

Thou shalt not want guidance: "I am the way, the truth, and the life."

Thou shalt not want companionship: "Lo, I am with you alway."

Thou shalt not want comfort: "I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter."

Thou shalt not want food: "I am the bread of life; he that cometh to me shall never hunger."

Thou shalt not want joy: "That my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full."

Thou shalt not want anything: "Whatever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he will give it you."

Thou shalt not want anything in this life: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."
 Thou shalt not want anything in eternity: "I go to prepare a place for you; that where I am, there ye may be also."

"These Little Ones"

By the Rev. J. L. McLaughlin, Secretary, Northwestern Agency



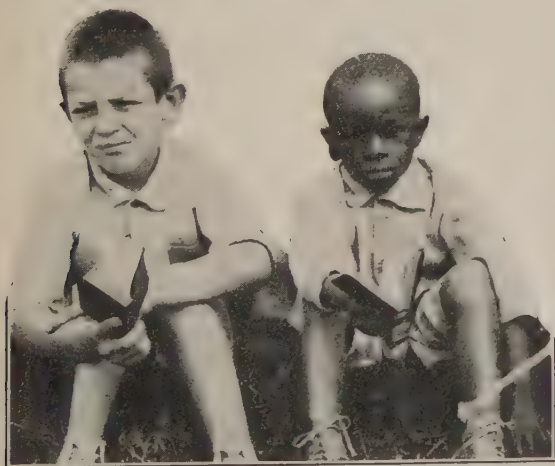
AN OPEN-AIR SUNDAY-SCHOOL CLASS OF UNDERNOURISHED CHILDREN

Testaments supplied by us. The friendly mixing of races is pleasant to observe, and promising for the future.

WITH vast numbers of unemployed, especially among the un-Americanized in our midst, there are large numbers of pitifully undernourished children. These are an easy prey to the ravages of tuberculosis. Chicago, in its fight against the dread disease, gathers as many of these children as possible in

Many of these children have never so much as seen a copy of the Bible. Throughout these different institutions during the summer, we have given away over 2,000 New Testaments, each one on the promise of the recipient that he or she would "try to read it." As many of them come back to physical health and strength, it is a pleasure to note how they have thriven on the Word. It was a case of hungry souls ready for the Seed.

Our colporteurs would be barred from many of the homes from which these children came. But one and all were anxious for a New Testament to take back home as their very own. Who can estimate the good these books will do?



A CLOSE-UP OF TWO BOYS

There were many more in the class for boys.

the different institutions for longer or shorter periods of time, just to build them up on good food and healthful conditions of living. As a part of our program to reach everyone, we find groups of these children in a goodly number of the 123 hospitals in Cook County, Ill.

The Little Gift

By Eleanor Halbrook Zimmerman

I had a slender gift,
It was so small
It hardly seemed to be
Worth while at all.

Until I read the tale
Of how a lad
Once gave the Lord, in faith,
What store he had!

That simple food he gave
Richly increased
Beneath the Saviour's touch
Into a feast.

Who, pondering on these things,
Can hope to measure
The power of God to make
Small gifts bear treasure?

Taking the Gospel to Songpan

By the Rev. Thomas Torrance, Agent, West China Subagency

IN the summer of last year I sent two men to the tribal country or Sutsing, Ts'onghua, and Mongkong, which lies from twelve to twenty days west of Chengtu. In this wholly neglected region they traveled widely with the Scriptures, telling out the message of life to all who would listen. This year, we thought of another neglected region—that of Songpan in the far Northwest.

There is a walled city by this name, situated at an altitude of 8,000 feet. It is the market of tribes far and near, and has a Chinese magistrate, with a large garrison of soldiers. The population is made up mostly of Chinese, Mohammedans, and Sifan. The two former are nearly balanced in numbers. The Sifan are of Tibetan stock. To meet the needs of all, we supplied the men with Chinese and Tibetan Gospels, catechisms, and tracts in large numbers, including those specially published for Mohammedans.

One of the men was Chou Lien-ch'ing, one of my oldest and best colporteurs, and the other, Kuo Fuh-hsing, a Ch'iang Christian. The latter, being a native of the mountains, I knew would be of much assistance in conditions and situations wholly new to his Chinese companion.

On arrival at Songpan, they began work by a big distribution of tracts. Besides the good done in this way, the distribution makes an excellent advertisement toward the sale of the Scriptures and bringing men to listen. A distinct interest was soon manifested. After three days of street preaching, two Chinese and ten Mohammedans professed their belief in the gospel preached. Naturally the men were elated. There is no joy like winning men for Christ. Only, raiding Satan's kingdom is often a dangerous occupation. Once again, it proved to be the case. Satan's emissaries, on this occasion, were Communists. Chou, as the chief speaker, was arrested by them and taken to the house of detention.

Was this to be the end of his work? he thought. No; he had been in tight situations before. His old resource would not fail him. He set himself to pray.

And he stood up to them squarely. They wanted to know how many Scriptures he had, their purpose being to burn them as "foreign books." "They are not foreign books," he an-

swered; "they are Heaven's books; they tell us of God, whose name is repeatedly mentioned in our four ancient books and five classics. I am, therefore, doing no wrong in selling them. If God is not mentioned in our four books and five classics, I am willing to go to prison. If He is, you have no right to send me there. You see me here dressed in Chinese clothes—there is nothing foreign about me. But you are clothed in foreign clothes. How is it you accuse me of propagating foreign doctrine? Wherein have I broken any law or done anything sinful?" This line of defense was indeed very disconcerting. And one man at least in the "Tangpu" or local political agency felt it.

Meantime the news of Chou's arrest had spread abroad. The Lord was standing by him. Help came from the most unexpected quarter.



CROSSING A RIVER IN THE MOUNTAINS BY CABLE
Note the man in the center.

One of the men who had heard the gospel came to visit him. This man went and found three of the Mohammedans who had heard the gospel, and they came with another influential Mohammedan.

No Mohammedans are in the "Tangpu." They keep by themselves. Being very strong in Songpan, they can make their influence felt. They argued that Chou was a believer in the same God as they believed in. To persecute him was the same as to persecute them. They won. Chou was set free. They advised him to take things easy for a little while. He responded by now preaching only in front of their mosque, where, of course, all classes could hear. In thus confining himself to this part, the Communists dared not interfere with him. He continued preaching there for a week.

The following two weeks the two men went

itinerating among the villages. They visited Tapingchai, Kaotengsze, Hoshaoteng, Hongch'iaokuan, Changloh, Chuehchiteng,—all Sifan places,—preaching and distributing Tibetan Gospels and catechisms in each village. No opposition of any kind was encountered. The people were uniformly polite. The one drawback was their inability to talk Sifan. Though Chinese was understood, it was only as a secondary language. They could not drive their message home with force.

The next week was spent preaching again in Songpan. Their stand was confined, as before, to the front of the mosque. This proved good policy. City people, visitors, all sorts and conditions, stood to listen. For it was a rare thing to hear of the love of God and a Saviour ready and able to save men.

But other regions were calling. To these also they must go. They visited Honghuateng, Shihochiao, Maoniukeo, and Renmaopu—the two first being Ch'iang villages; the two second, Sifan. Preaching in the Ch'iang villages was much easier, seeing these people knew Chinese better than the Sifan. Then Kuo Fuh-hsing was in his element. Among those

of his own race and former religion he knew how to adapt his words to make them understand. He followed Chou to explain minutely the meaning of his address.

At Huanglongsi they attended a religious fair. Among the pilgrims were a band of women from Sumo, a small matriarchal kingdom. According to repute, only a certain percentage of the male children are allowed to live there, men being held of little account. The colporteurs made bold to give these women the gospel. Whatever might be their discount on the male sex at home, they had none in listening to our preachers. They paid so much heed that thirty-seven of them openly declared their deep interest in all they heard.

Altogether the colporteurs reached Chinese, Mohammedans, Sifan, Ch'iang, Bolotsze, Pitongtsze, Huamiao, Ch'ingmiao, and other peoples. (They had distributed 1,500 Tibetan Gospels, 3,500 Chinese Gospels and Old Testament portions, and 50 New Testaments.) It is not too much to say that, as a result of their efforts, the opening of a church in Songpan now would be welcomed by a

(Continued on page 208)

• • •

Orders of the Day

By Lyman MacCallum, Agent, Constantinople Subagency

A MORE unlikely place for finding a treasure could hardly be imagined. It is a battered copy of the Book of Psalms, which some careful soul salvaged and returned to the Bible Society with the suggestion that we "might find some use for it." The original brave crimson of its edges has faded to a nondescript brownish pink; water has scarred it, and there are evidences that its broken purple covers had made the accidental acquaintance of a mud puddle even before its use as a tablemat branded it with a sooty circle. Beneath the imprint of the American Bible Society the title-page carries the date 1887. Not exactly the sort of book for which one can easily find use.

But, as I fingered it dubiously, I came on a slip of paper, on which was penciled in old-fashioned, childish writing the following "orders of the day": PRAY—READ—BRUSH TEETH—FIX ROOM—FEED CAT—FEED DOVES.

I read it with a smile. Then, as I began to realize its significance, my emotion changed to one of reverence. I was holding between thumb and forefinger the tender conscience of a child. How clearly defined were his duties toward God, toward himself, and toward society.

"Pray; read." One wonders what the Psalms meant to that child. Parts would certainly be misunderstood; some would be meaningless; but there are hundreds of passages descriptive of nature, of man's heart and of God's ways, which can delight and expand the childish mind.

Cleanliness follows hard upon godliness. "Brush teeth. Fix room." Does the latter injunction suggest that the writer was a girl? Possibly, though even boys have been known to make up beds.

And so downstairs, joyously, to cat and doves. Here are little people which wait for their providence from his hand just as he, in turn, has waited on that of God. And is not God, perhaps, as proud and happy in his child as the child is in his pets?

By now that unknown child must have arrived at maturity or even reached middle life. How confident one feels of the life reflected by that little slip of paper! Somewhere there walks a man or woman devout before God and trusted by his fellow-men. His place in society is not accidental. The foundation was laid years ago when a child learned to accept life's responsibilities in the simple terms of: "READ—FIX ROOM—FEED DOVES."

With Gospels and Camera among The Ch'iang

(See page 208)



THIS FAMILY OPENED ITS
HOUSE FOR A CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL



MR. WANG, A BAPTIZED
CHRISTIAN, AND HIS
FAMILY

Center: A CHIANG
PRIEST whose family
has held the priesthood
for several hundred
years.



Below: A RONG (left)
AND A CH' IANG
(right) GIRL

"Wax ornaments cover
the head of the former.
The hair plaits of the
latter are covered with
silver rings, as in Pal-
estine today."

THREE GENERATIONS



MR. TORRANCE
HAS NOTED AND
REPORTED ON
PREVIOUS TRIPS
A MARKED LIKE-
NESS BETWEEN
CH' IANG TRADI-
TIONS, RITUALS,
AND RELIGIOUS
IDEAS AND OLD
TESTAMENT REC-
ORDS OF THE
HEBREWS, AND
WONDERED IF
THERE IS A LINK
WITH THE LOST
TRIBES





LEFT: TONGMEN-
WAI, A CH'ANG
VILLAGE WITH
CHRISTIANS.
NOTE THE PRE-
CIPITOUS MOUN-
TAINSIDE BE-
YOND



RIGHT: TYPICAL
VALLEY IN THE
CH'ANG COUN-
TRY



BELOW: THE
PREACHER (CENTER
STANDING) AND HIS
FAMILY AT TONG-
MENWAI



REV. T. TOR-
RANCE AND
HIS FAITHFUL
MULE BILLY
ON A CH'ANG
MOUNTAIN
ROAD. NOTE
HOW THE
ROAD IS
BUILT AND
BUTTRESSED
UP FROM BE-
NEATH

BELOW: THE
CHURCH BUILDING
AND CONGREGA-
TION AT TONGMEN-
WAI; BUILT LIKE A
CH'ANG HOUSE TO
AVOID ANTAGO-
NISM TO THINGS
FOREIGN. ON THE
ROOF A ROOM FOR
THE MISSIONARY



Another Long Tour

IN July the Rev. T. Torrance took another of his hazardous and rewarding tours among the mountain-living Ch'iang. Let it be remembered that it takes longer to journey from Shanghai to Chengtu, Mr. Torrance's headquarters in far western Szechuan, than from New York to Shanghai. The Ch'iang country lies still further west, where high and precipitous mountains are separated by deep and narrow valleys, and travel is by narrow and rough mountain paths often hewn or built on the steep mountainsides.

Mr. Torrance was away from headquarters for six weeks, four of them without seeing a white face or speaking his mother tongue. A copy of a daily journal of his experiences, while too voluminous for use here, gives, together with many pictures, very vivid impressions. A few of the photos are on the preceding two pages.

The strenuous climbing up and down the mountainsides, the uncertainties and varieties of his night lodgings; the friendliness of the majority of officials, local chiefs and rulers, as well as of the general populace; the antagonism, sometimes open and vocal, sometimes secret and vicious, of antiforeign and Communistic emissaries from centers further east; the cheer of finding individuals and small groups scattered here and there who were avowedly Christians, some of them baptized; and the joy of finding the gospel welcomed and thoughtfully discussed,—these were all among the experiences of this long tour.

The gospel is being spread and welcomed in China despite famine, and warfare, and anti-foreign and antireligious propaganda, because it meets the soul hunger of China.

• •

Taking the Gospel to Songpan

(Continued from page 205)

good number. The proposal was indeed made. A Christian leader now would certainly find the way to gather in a small congregation for weekly worship. Before they left on their return journey, 65 Chinese, 52 Mohammedans, 4 Sifan, and 1 Bolotsze had given their names as ready to join.

On the way back Chou visited the Ch'iang centers of Tongmenwai and Wenchuan, seeing the Christians and adding his word of exhortation. After hearing his story of how he had been kept and used to show the way of life to so many, our hearts were filled with exceeding thankfulness.

BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD

EDITORS *The Secretaries*

NEW YORK, DECEMBER, 1930

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

INSTITUTED 1816

Bible House, Astor Place, New York

THE American Bible Society was instituted in 1816 with the sole object of encouraging wider circulation of the Holy Scriptures, without note or comment.

Its program is world-wide and includes the *translation* of the Scriptures into the languages and common dialects of the people; the *publication* of the Scriptures in styles suitable and convenient, and at the lowest possible cost; the *distribution* of the Scriptures throughout the world at cost or free, as a missionary program.

Membership in the Society consists of three classes, each with its special privileges: Annual Members, \$5; Life Members, \$50; and Life Directors, \$150.

Full information about the privileges of Membership will be sent on application.

The Society is supported by the gifts of its members and friends and by the contributions of Christian churches with which the Society has official or semi-official relations.

A Little Girl's First Purchase

A LITTLE story has just come from Rochester. Such incidents cheer the workers.

A farmer asked a little girl to help him pick his cherry crop. After the work was done and the farmer was paying her, he asked her what she was going to do with all the money she had earned. This was her reply: "This money is all my own, for mother said so; and the first thing I am going to do with it is to get a real good Bible with gold edges and concordance like Mr. Findlay of the American Bible Society showed me. And I am going right to the city the first thing in the morning to get it."

"Good for you, Mary," said the farmer. "And as I am going to the city myself tomorrow early, we will go together." So Mary got what she desired more than anything else—the Bible she wanted so much as her very own.

Then she asked Mr. Findlay to write something on the flyleaf for her, and, as he did so, he thought of that on his own first Bible, and so wrote:

Holy Bible, book divine,
Precious treasure, thou art mine.

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CASH RECEIPTS IN OCTOBER, 1930

LEGACIES

Bradley, Susan L., New Haven, Conn.	\$ 488 55
Leavitt, James T., New York, N. Y.	5,205 21
Wilson, Della M., Gerry, N. Y.	100 00
	<u>\$5,793 76</u>

ANNUITY GIFTS

Amount received during month	\$33,120 94
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AUXILIARY SOCIETIES

Received on
Donation Book
Account Account

Buffalo City and Erie County	\$ 348 01
Charleston, S. C.	\$500 00
Connecticut	100 00
Dutchess Co.	250 00
Fayette Co., Ind.	105 32
Freedom Welsh, N.Y.	48 00
Ghent, N. Y.	50 00
Green Co., N. Y.	200 00
Massachusetts	1,000 00
New York	75 79
Rhode Island	17 91
St. Louis, Mo.	65 88
Union Bible Society of Fairfield and Richland Counties, S. C.	63 52
Vermont Co.	100 00
Westchester County, N. Y.	576 08
	<u>\$2,316 89</u>

Donation Account.....	\$1,316 84
	<u>\$3,633 23</u>

HOME AGENCIES

Atlantic	\$2,615 53
Central	1,284 20
Colored	3,070 07
Eastern	3,027 26
National Capital	471 79
Northwestern	3,048 08
South Atlantic	1,323 22
Southwestern	1,882 27
Western	1,291 50
Pacific	1,457 76
	<u>\$19,471 68</u>

Home Agencies	\$19,471 68
Returns from Scriptures Donated	1 35
	<u>\$62,020 96</u>

MISCELLANEOUS

Annuity Acct Invested..	\$ 5,750 00
Annuity Dept.	181 56
Annuity Equalization Funds	425 00
Bible House Rentals....	10,737 31
Bible Society Record....	8 00
Diffusion of Information..	1 25
Funds for Transmission..	45 00
General Salaries and Expenses	14 25
Gifts for Distribution to the Blind:	
From Churches..	\$ 38.82
From Individuals..	1,537.42
Gifts from Churches....	12,293 52
Gifts from Individuals..	13,779 06
Income from Available Investments	524 09
Income from Legacies and Gifts, Trust Funds	693 18
Legacy Equalization Fund	25 00
Manufacturing Credits...	2,955 49
Miscellaneous Foreign—Million Test. Fund....	56 15
Special Annuity Income and Expense	291 84
The Trade	514 30
Wragg, J. P. and J. C., Fund	60 00
	<u>\$49,936 24</u>
Total Receipts	<u>\$111,957 20</u>

RETURNS FROM SCRIPTURES DONATED

Baker, Albert	\$0 19
Beebe, Milton O.	1 16
	<u>\$1 35</u>
From Home Agencies and Included in Home Agencies' Receipts	
Donations from Pennsylvania Bible Society.....	\$152 00
Gifts from Churches.....	325 98
Gifts from Individuals....	333 42

RECAPITULATION

Legacies	\$ 5,793 76
Annuity Gifts	33,120 94
Auxiliary Societies on Donation Account.....	1,316 84
Auxiliary Societies on Book Account	2,316 39

CASH STATEMENT FOR OCTOBER, 1930

GENERAL CASH STATEMENT

RECEIPTS

Balance from September, 1930.....	\$76,520 05
Gifts from Auxiliaries.....	1,316 84
Auxiliaries	2,316 39
Trade	514 30
Manufacturing Credits	2,955 49
Annuity Account	33,120 94
Bible House Rentals.....	10,737 31
Gifts for Distribution to Blind.....	1,576 24
Gifts from Churches.....	12,298 52
Gifts from Individuals.....	13,779 06
Bible Society Record.....	8 00
Wragg, Rev. and Mrs. J. P., Fund.....	60 00
Funds Received for Transmission.....	45 00
Special Annuity Income and Expense.....	291 84
Annuity Account Invested.....	5,750 00
Annuity Equalization Fund.....	425 00
Legacy Equalization Fund.....	25 00
Home Agencies	19,471 68
Miscellaneous Foreign	56 15
General—Salaries and Expenses.....	14 25
Diffusion of Information.....	1 25
Income from Legacies and Gifts—Trust Funds	693 18
Annuity Department	181 56
Incomes from Available Investment.....	524 09
Legacies	5,793 76
Returns from Scriptures Donated.....	1 35
	<u>\$188,477 25</u>

DISBURSEMENTS

Bills of Exchange.....	\$15,877 71
General Salaries and Expenses.....	4,630 07
Treasurer's Office—Salaries and Expenses..	1,795 77
Bible House Expenses.....	5,402 75
Appeals	1,013 57
Diffusion of Information.....	6,325 58
Annuity Department	26,498 23
Bible Society Record.....	123 40
Blind Fund	1,356 00
Cash Reserved for Publication Department..	46,639 23
Home Agencies	13,359 14
Foreign Agencies	7,240 45
United States Trust Co.—Annuity Account..	24,521 72
Miscellaneous Home	434 86
Miscellaneous Foreign	45 10
Church Budget Costs.....	491 67
Legacy Equalization Fund.....	32 11
Legacy Expenses	22 00
Library	148 68
Pensions	316 66
Income from Legacies and Gifts—Trust Funds	500 00
Special Annuity Income and Expense.....	414 34
Plate Account	64 06
Balance to November, 1930.....	31,224 15
	<u>\$188,477 25</u>

PUBLICATION DEPARTMENT CASH STATEMENT

Balance from September, 1930.....	\$38,872 39	Publication Department	\$24,302 65
Transferred from General Cash.....	46,639 23	Balance to November, 1930.....	61,208 97
	<u>\$85,511 62</u>		<u>\$85,511 62</u>

Total Cash Balance\$92,433 12

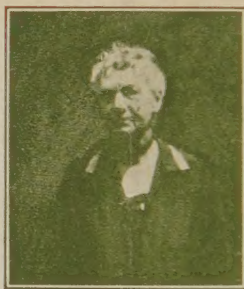
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